

CITY OF ELIZABETHTOWN

Joe Reverman, AICP Director Planning & Development Department

JEFFREY H. GREGORY, MAYOR

Elizabethtown Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda
September 23, 2025
6:00 p.m.
Pritchard Community Center, 404 S. Mulberry Street

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Approval of Minutes August 26, 2025
- 3. Approval of corrected Minutes May 13, 2025 related to Text Amendments for Signs
- 4. Development Plan for Wawa Location: 2500 Ring Rd
- 5. Development Plan for the Outdoor Music Venue Location: 600 Commerce Dr
- 6. Public Hearing No. 2025-PC-19
 Uniform Application for Cellular Antenna Tower and Amended Development Plan for Goodman Location: 1110 Alex Dr
- 7. Director's Report
- 6. Commission Member Items
- 7. Adjournment

MEETING MINUTES OF THE ELIZABETHTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION AUGUST 26, 2025

A meeting of the Elizabethtown Planning Commission was held on August 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Pritchard Community Center, 404 South Mulberry Street, Elizabethtown.

Commission members present:

Steve Rice, Chairperson Ken Dozer, Vice Chairperson Maurice Young Kyle Souleyrette Alicia Jenkins

Staff members present:

Joe Reverman, Planning Director Aaron Hawkins, Senior Planner Madeline Drake, City Planner Commission Attorney Matt Hess

The following matters were considered:

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2025

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

AUGUST 12, 2025, PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

On a motion made by Commissioner Souleyrette, seconded by Young, the following resolution was adopted.

RESOLVED, that the Elizabethtown Planning Commission does hereby **APPROVE** the minutes of its meeting conducted on August 12, 2025.

The vote was as follows:

YES: Commissioners Rice, Dozer, Young, Souleyrette, and Jenkins

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2025

COMMERCIAL DESIGN GUIDELINE WAIVER FOR 1875 NORTH DIXIE AVENUE

Request: Commercial Design Guideline Waiver

Project Name: Popeye's Louisiana Chicken Location: 1875 North Dixie Avenue

Owner: Ace Brands, LLC Applicant: Ace Brands, LLC

Agency Testimony:

The Chairperson introduced the agenda item. Madeline Drake presented the staff report and accompanying PowerPoint presentation. She oriented the Commission to the location of the property and identified nearby zoning classifications and uses. The applicant is proposing to repaint the entire restaurant structure and install new fixtures. The EIFS on one façade will also be replaced with Nichiha Fiber Cement in the style of vintage brick. Nichiha Fiber Cement is not permitted as a predominant building material. A waiver of Section 154.134(A)(2) – Materials and Colors, to allow fiber cement as the predominant material of both tower facades is being requested. Staff recommend approval of the waiver request with no conditions.

Commissioner Young asked if the trash enclosure will match the colors of the building. The applicant responded yes. Commissioner Souleyrette asked staff if they believe the use of this material will become more common. Ms. Drake responded it's likely due to it being more durable than EIFS. Commissioner Souleyrette also asked if staff have considered looking into and potentially amending the design guidelines due to the number of waivers being requested recently. Mr. Reverman stated staff are currently in the process of looking into updating some of the commercial design guidelines. Vice Chairperson Dozer asked if the material was similar to Hardie Plank. Ms. Drake responded yes.

Those speaking in favor of the request:

Aamir Ali, 11810 Interchange Drive, Louisville, KY 40229

Summary of those speaking in favor:

Aamir Ali stated the trash enclosure will match the parts of the building that are grey and black.

Commercial Design Guideline Waiver

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Souleyrette, the following resolution was adopted based on staff analysis and testimony heard today.

Waiver of Section 154.134(A)(2) – Materials and Colors

WHEREAS, the age of this building and its predation to the commercial design guidelines provide a special circumstance for this waiver request; and

WHEREAS, the proposed fiber cement will appear more similar to permitted predominant materials than the existing EIFS.

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2025

Now, therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Elizabethtown Planning Commission does hereby **APPROVE** the Commercial Design Guideline Waiver for Popeye's Louisiana Chicken, located at 1875 North Dixie Avenue, with the following waiver, and no conditions:

• Waiver of Section 154.134(A)(2) – Materials and Colors, to allow fiber cement as the predominant material of both tower facades.

The vote was as follows:

YES: Commissioners Rice, Dozer, Young, Souleyrette, and Jenkins

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING NO. 2025-PC-17

Request: Adoption of the Envision Active Elizabethtown Bicycle and Pedestrian

Master Plan

Project Name: Envision Active Elizabethtown Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

Applicant: City of Elizabethtown

Chairperson Rice introduced the agenda item and opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. Matt Hess administered the oath to all those who intended to testify.

Agency Testimony:

Aaron Hawkins presented the Envision Active Elizabethtown Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Mr. Hawkins stated the Plan was commissioned by Greenspace and Greenspace has partnered with the City to help during the implementation phase. Mr. Hawkins briefly discussed parts of the plan including benefits, bike and pedestrian network project types, and how those project types were prioritized.

Commissioner Souleyrette asked about Robinbrooke Boulevard saying it already had striped bike lanes. Mr. Hawkins stated this plan suggests physical buffers for bike lanes and described different examples of what type of physical buffer could be used. Vice Chairperson Dozer asked if an email from Council Member Springsteen with questions and concerns regarding the Plan, be entered into the record. Mr. Reverman responded no, but that Mr. Hawkins could address some of the Council Member's concerns to the Commission. Mr. Hawkins addressed some of the Council Member's concerns regarding Pear Orchard Road NW, improvements along Ring Road and US 62 not being a higher priority, updates in the industrial park area, and North Black Branch Road.

Questions from those in attendance:

Robert Leonard, 2505 Chatworth Drive, Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Summary of questions:

Robert Leonard asked if new development that attracts more pedestrian traffic would impact the priority level of certain projects, mainly regarding pedestrian safety. Mr. Hawkins stated currently the city cannot require the owner of a vacant lot to construct a sidewalk. That process usually begins once a building permit is pulled for that lot to be developed.

Those speaking on the request:

No one spoke on this request.

Commission Discussion:

The Commission thanked staff for their time and effort into creating the plan and feel it's a great addition to the comprehensive plan.

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2025

Hearing No. 2025-PC-17

Adoption of the Envision Active Elizabethtown Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan

On a motion by Vice Chairperson Dozer, seconded by Young, the following resolution was adopted.

RESOLVED, that the Elizabethtown Planning Commission does hereby **RECOMMEND** to the Elizabethtown City Council that the Envision Active Elizabethtown Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan be **APPROVED** as an amendment to the Elizabethtown Comprehensive Plan.

The vote was as follows:

YES: Commissioners Rice, Dozer, Young, Souleyrette, and Jenkins

Chairperson Rice closed the hearing at 6:49 pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2025

Commission Training:

The Chairperson introduced the agenda item at 6:51 pm.

Matt Hess, Planning Commission Attorney discussed recent court cases to provide training for the Commission. 30 minutes of continuing education training will be credited for compliance with KRS 147A.027. The following cases were discussed.

City of Richmond v. Spangler Apartments.

Paris City Commission v. Vance

Justic v. Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Council

The training concluded at 7:21 pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2025

Director's Report:

The Chairperson introduced the agenda item.

Director Joe Reverman discussed upcoming cases and the following Department and infrastructure projects.

Department Projects

- Historic Preservation District Expansion
- Pre-Approved Housing Plans
- Fee Schedule
- Downtown Master Plan
- Commercial Design Review Amendments neon lighting
- Short Term Rental notifications to property owners

Infrastructure Projects

- Under Construction
 - Saint John Rd widening (State) Expected completion in September 2025
 - South Mulberry roundabouts at US31 Bypass (State) Expected completion in November 2025
 - o Lane diet and bike lanes on South Mulberry from roundabouts to Brook St
 - o Helm & Terry St (City) Expected completion in October 2025
 - Commerce Dr around Outdoor Music Venue (City) Completion in summer 2026
 - o French St Sewer Upgrade (City) Completion in September 2025
- Pre-Construction
 - KY 251 from Ring Rd to KY 434 (Battle Training Rd) (State) November 2025 Letting
 - KY 251 & Ring Rd roundabout (State) November 2025 Letting, August 2026
 Completion
 - US 31W from Veterans to Knox Blvd (State) In Design
 - South Ring Rd extension from Parkway to South Dixie (State) Public notice later this
 year and working on property acquisition.
 - o South Ring Rd extension from South Dixie to Lincoln Pkwy (State) Concept Design.
 - North Mulberry St from Brooks St to Gregory St (State) In Design, working on property acquisition.
 - o Patriot Pkwy RCUT at N. Provident (State) Completion in Spring 2026.
 - Patriot Pkwy RCUT at Hutcherson (State) Completion in 2026.
 - US 62 from I-65 to Upper Colesburg Rd (State) No start date
 - KY 1600 from Patriot Pkwy to KY 220 (State) No start date
 - o Commerce Dr from US 31W to Springfield Rd (State) No start date
 - East Dixie from New Glendale to Lincoln Pkwy (City/State) Design starting later this year.

Commissioner Souleyrette asked how many dwelling units have been approved but are not currently under construction. Mr. Reverman responded approximately 1000.

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2025

Commission Member Items:

The Chairperson introduced the agenda item. Commissioner Souleyrette asked for the status of the online permitting software. Mr. Reverman stated we anticipate going live in November.

Adjournment:

There being no further items to discuss, Commissioner Jenkins made a motion to adjourn with a second by Souleyrette. The Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Prepared by:
Janet Rodgers, Administrative Secretary Planning & Development
Attachment & Exhibits DVD of the meeting available for review
ADOPTED AND APPROVED
day of, 2025
Steve Rice, Chairperson Elizabethtown Planning Commission

CORRECTION TO MINUTES OF THE MAY 13, 2025 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

The following correction to the minutes of the May 13, 2025 meeting for public hearing 2025-PC-10 is requested to be approved by the Planning Commission. In section 154.212, the minutes stated "Miles Street" when it should have stated "Saint John Road." That is the only correction to the minutes.

Copy of May 13, 2025 minutes for public hearing No. 2025-PC-10 with requested correction

PUBLIC HEARING No. 2025-PC-10

Request: Zoning Text Amendment

Project Name: Zoning Text Amendment related to signs

Applicant: City of Elizabethtown

Chairperson Rice introduced the agenda item and opened the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

Agency Testimony:

Aaron Hawkins presented the proposed amendments, including allowing signs for multi-family residential uses to be illuminated, update off-premises sign regulations relating to the distance from residential properties and other off-premises signs, adding regulations to electronic message boards, and adding roadways as scenic parkways, which restrict off-premises signs.

Those speaking in favor of the request:

No one spoke in favor of the amendments.

Those speaking in opposition to the request:

No one spoke in opposition to the amendments.

Deliberation:

Councilperson Fulkerson asked about the restriction on the number of electronic message boards on a property. Mr. Hawkins clarified this it would be restricted to one per property.

Commissioner Souleyrette asked if the one minute rate of change for electronic message boards is typical. Mr. Hawkins stated that is common practice for cities to regulate the rate of change, but the rate may be different.

Hearing No. 2025-PC-10

Zoning Text Amendments related to signs

On a motion by Commissioner Souleyrette, seconded by Commissioner Young, the following resolution was adopted based on staff analysis and testimony heard today.

WHEREAS, the Elizabethtown Planning Commission (Commission) finds the proposed text amendment complies with the Envision Elizabethtown 2040 Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that allowing internally illuminated signs will help promote high quality and diverse housing options for all residents by supporting the adequate supply of multiple housing types that aligns with forecasted housing demand and household incomes in Elizabethtown; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that limiting the location of off-premises signs and the frequency of electronic messages of message boards and adding a portion of US 62 and US 31W to the scenic parkway designation will promote the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Elizabethtown by promoting appropriate land use and redevelopment with high quality design by improving the aesthetics of new development through design guidelines that reinforce the character of each sub area, by advancing connectivity in the city and region through multiple transportation types by providing aesthetic enhancements along Elizabethtown's major corridors, gateways, and downtown that reinforce the city's character, by continuing to grow tourism through the development of community assets, parks, trails and programs by implementing enhanced gateway treatments and a wayfinding system throughout the city, and by investing in downtown by continuing to develop it as a destination by maintaining the historic character of downtown and the adjacent properties to downtown.

RESOLVED, that the Elizabethtown Planning Commission does hereby **RECOMMEND** to the Elizabethtown City Council that the following zoning text amendments related to signs be **APPROVED**.

The vote was as follows:

YES: Commissioners Rice, Dozer, Young, and Souleyrette

NOT PRESENT: Commissioner McCrary

Text amendments recommended for approval:

§ 154.059 R-5 URBAN RESIDENTIAL MIXED (G) SIGNS

(G) Signs, R-5 Zone. Additional information and standards for signs as well as specific requirements are found in §§ 154.205 through 154.217.

R-5 Signs									
Use	Allowed Types	Maximum Number	Maximum Sign Area	Maximum Height	Location Require- ments	Lighting Allowed	Additional Require- ments		
Single- Family Attached, two-family, Multifamily identificati on	Monume nt Pole	2/entranc e	32 sq. ft.	10 ft.	To be approved by Engineeri ng Departme nt	External Yes	Walls and fences permitted as part of overall sign design; pole must contain multiple		

				poles

§ 154.060 R-6 HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (G) Signs

(G) Signs, R-6 Zone. Additional information and standards for signs as well as specific requirements are found in §§ 154.205 through 154.217.

R-6 Signs									
Use	Allowed Types	Maximum Number	Maximum Sign Area	Maximum Height	Location Require- ments	Lighting Allowed	Additional Require- ments		
Single- Family Attached, two-family, Multifamily identificati on	Monume nt Pole	2/entranc e	32 sq. ft.	10 ft.	To be approved by Engineeri ng Departme nt	External Yes	Walls and fences permitted as part of overall sign design; pole must contain multiple poles		

§ 154.071 WCD-1, WCD-2 WOODLAND CORRIDOR DISTRICT (G) Signs

(G) Signs, WCD Zone. Additional information and standards for signs as well as specific requirements are found in §§ 154.205 through 154.217.

Use	Allowed Types	Maximum Number	Maximum Sign Area	Maximum Height	Location Require- ments	Lighting Allowed	Additional Require- ments
Single- family Attached, Two- family, Multi- family Identificatio n	Monument	2/entrance	32 sq. ft.	15 ft.	To be approved by Engineering Department	External Yes	Walls and fences permitted a part of overall sign design

§ 154.212 SCENIC PARKWAY SIGNAGE.

It is the intent of this regulation to implement the goals of the comprehensive plan through the recognition that certain entryways/roadways to the city are determined to be scenic in nature

and therefore should be protected from visual blight from excessive signage. To meet this community concern, no off-premises signs shall be permitted along a designated scenic parkway. Scenic parkways include Veterans Way, KY 3005 (Ring Road), KY 61 (Lincoln Parkway) and KY 361 (E2RC Patriot Parkway), US 31W between Miles Street Saint John Road and New Glendale Road, and US 62 between Ring Road (near I-65 exit 94) and College Street Road.

§ 154.207 GENERAL PROVISIONS.

- (N) All residential signs may be externally illuminated only-, except as expressly permitted within the zoning district regulations.
- (Q) Additional provisions for message boards
- (1) No more than one message board may be permitted on a property.
- (2) Message boards may be electronic or manual copy change.
- (3) Message boards must be accompanied by a permanent business identification sign if on a freestanding pole or monument sign.
- (4) Electronic message boards shall not change at a rate faster than one minute.

§ 154.217 SIGN TYPES.

The following sign types are permitted by this chapter.

		Tal	ole 1: Other Sign	Types		
Туре	Allowed Types	Maximum Number	Maximum Sign Area	Location Requirement s	Lighting Allowed	Additional Requirement s
Message Board	Wall	Wall: 1	Not to exceed 50% of total		Yes	May be electronic or
	Monument	Mon.: 1	allowed sign face when pole or monument,	Monument: 10 ft. off paved surface		manual copy change; must be accompanied
	Pole	Pole: 1	maximum of 75 sq. ft.	Pole: 10 ft. off paved surface		by permanent business identification signage if pole or monument
						See Section

			154.207 General Provisions (Q) for additional
			requirements.

Туре	Allowed Types	Maximum Sign Area	Maximum Height	Location Requirements	Lighting Allowed
Off- Premises	Mon.	300 sq. ft. excluding	45 ft.	20 ft. off-street right of way; in	Yes
	Pole	structural supports; may be placed back to back or in a "V" type construction		areas zoned C- 3, C-4, I-1, I-2	

Additional Requirements

Spacing:

- 1. No closer than 2,000 ft. from any other off-premises sign as measured along the near curbside of any adjacent street in either direction from the sign
- 2. No closer than $\frac{250}{2,000}$ ft. from any other such sign as measured from a point across the street from the sign along the opposite curbside in either direction
- 3. For signs located at intersections, the measurements of requirements 1. and 2. above apply to both intersecting streets, regardless of sign face orientation
- 4. No closer than 500 ft. from any residential zone, measured along either side of the street
- 5. No closer than 100 500 ft. from any residential zone as measured in a radius from the sign



Development Plan

WaWa 2500 Ring Road



Staff Report

Elizabethtown Planning Commission September 23, 2025

REQUESTS

Development Plan and Commercial Design Guideline review

APPLICANT

WaWa Midwest LLC

OWNER

WaWa Midwest LLC

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Address: 2500 Ring Road

Size: 1.97 acres

Current Zoning: C-3 Regional Commercial

Current Use: Vacant

Proposed Use: Convenience store



SUMMARY

2025 UPDATE This development was previously approved by the Planning Commission on August 8, 2023 conditioned upon approval by all reviewing departments and agencies and the provision of providing access to the adjoining lots. Due to a number of pre-development requirements (i.e. environmental remediation), the previous approval has expired due to construction not taking place within a year of approval. The applicant has not abandoned the project and has done the behind the scenes work to prep the site for development. With those behind the scenes obligations being completed, the site is now ready for development. This request is to approve the development as it was presented in 2023 with only minor utility changes being proposed as well as removing two air-pump stalls and replacing them with parking spaces. Below is the staff report from 2023 which provides an analysis of what was approved. Staff recommends approval of both the Commercial Design Guidelines and the Development Plan with the same conditions as was recommended in 2023.

The applicant is proposing construction of a 6,372 square foot convenience store on the subject property. The property is vacant although a few proposals have been approved for it in the past. The property to the east is vacant and was traded by the City to the Jones family. A mortgage company is located to the north. To the west, across Shepherdsville Road are a restaurant and photography studio. Bud's Produce and a vacant lot are to the south. All the surrounding property is zoned C-3 except the property to the north which is zoned C-2.

As part of this development, a shared Ring Road access will be constructed on the adjacent property to the east. Access on Shepherdsville Road will be provided near the northwest corner of the property. There is an

access easement across the northern portion of the property for the benefit of the properties to the north and east. The development plan does not show physical connections to those two lots and a condition of approval requiring connections is recommended. The developer is discussing the easement with the adjoining property owners.

The building will have customer entrances on the north and south sides. Parking will be located on three sides of the building with a loading/unloading area on the fourth. Additional parking will be provided near the north and west property boundaries. An area is being reserved for installation of vehicle charging stations.

Sanitary sewer and water are available at the site. Detention will be on the site and underground.

The building exterior will have a mixture of brick, tile, and EIFS in neutral colors. The building meets the design guidelines and no waivers are necessary. The fuel pump canopy will be angled rather than flat. The lower portion of the support columns will be covered with brick that matches the building. The site design and landscaping meet the Zoning Ordinance requirements.

BACKGROUND

This property has had commercial zoning for many years. Development plans were previously submitted for two different convenience stores in 1988 and 2006 as well as a Rite Aid drug store in 2008 and a Crossroads IGA in 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the commercial design guidelines review. Staff recommends approval of the development plan conditioned upon modifications to accommodate the access easement at the rear of the property.

COMMERCIAL DESIGN REVIEW ANALYSIS

All four of the building facades will be covered predominantly with brick that will be two shades of brown. Other exterior materials include a cream or light tan stucco or EIFS and tile with a stone appearance. The main customer entrance will face Ring Road and there will be a second entrance at the rear. Both entrances will be emphasized with the stucco or EIFS above them and metal overhangs with bright red trim. All four facades are less than 100 feet in length, but recesses and projections have been provided on three of them and roof variations are provided on all four. The building meets or exceeds the design guidelines.

Parking is spread around three sides of the property. There is none on the east side, but a dedicated loading/unloading zone has been created adjacent to the east side of the building so trucks can unload without blocking customer parking spaces. The unloading area has its own entrance into the building.

The Zoning Ordinance contains a special provision that allows convenience stores to place interior landscaping around the perimeter of the site due to the amount of vehicular traffic. The designer has elected to place some of the required interior landscaping in islands and peninsulas around the parking area, all of it in the form of small trees. The entire perimeter is shown to have a mix of trees and shrubs that exceeds the Zoning Ordinance requirements.



Figure 1: South (Ring Road) elevation



Figure 2: North elevation

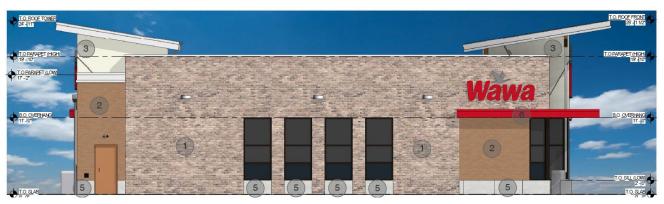


Figure 3: West (Shepherdsville Road) elevation



Figure 4: East elevation



Figure 5: Fuel canopy

COMMERCIAL DESIGN REVIEW RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the Commercial Design Guideline review.

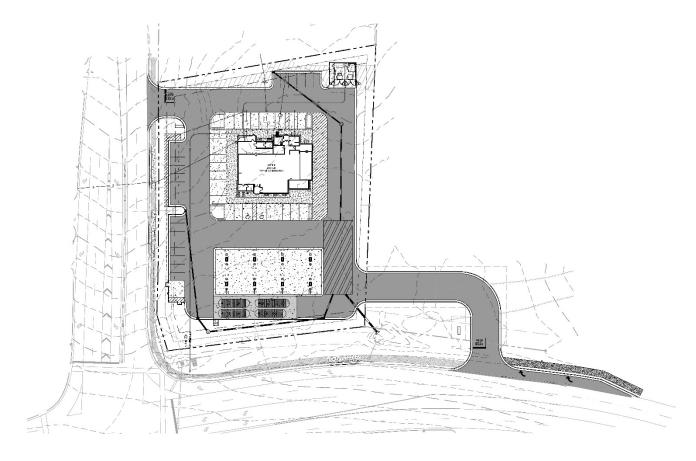


Figure 6: Previous DP

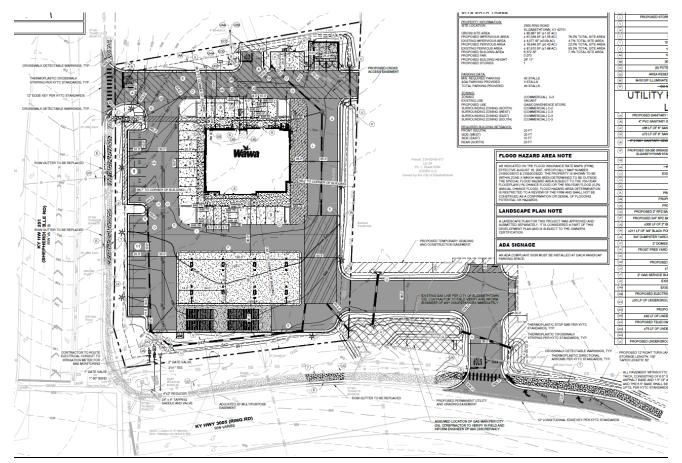


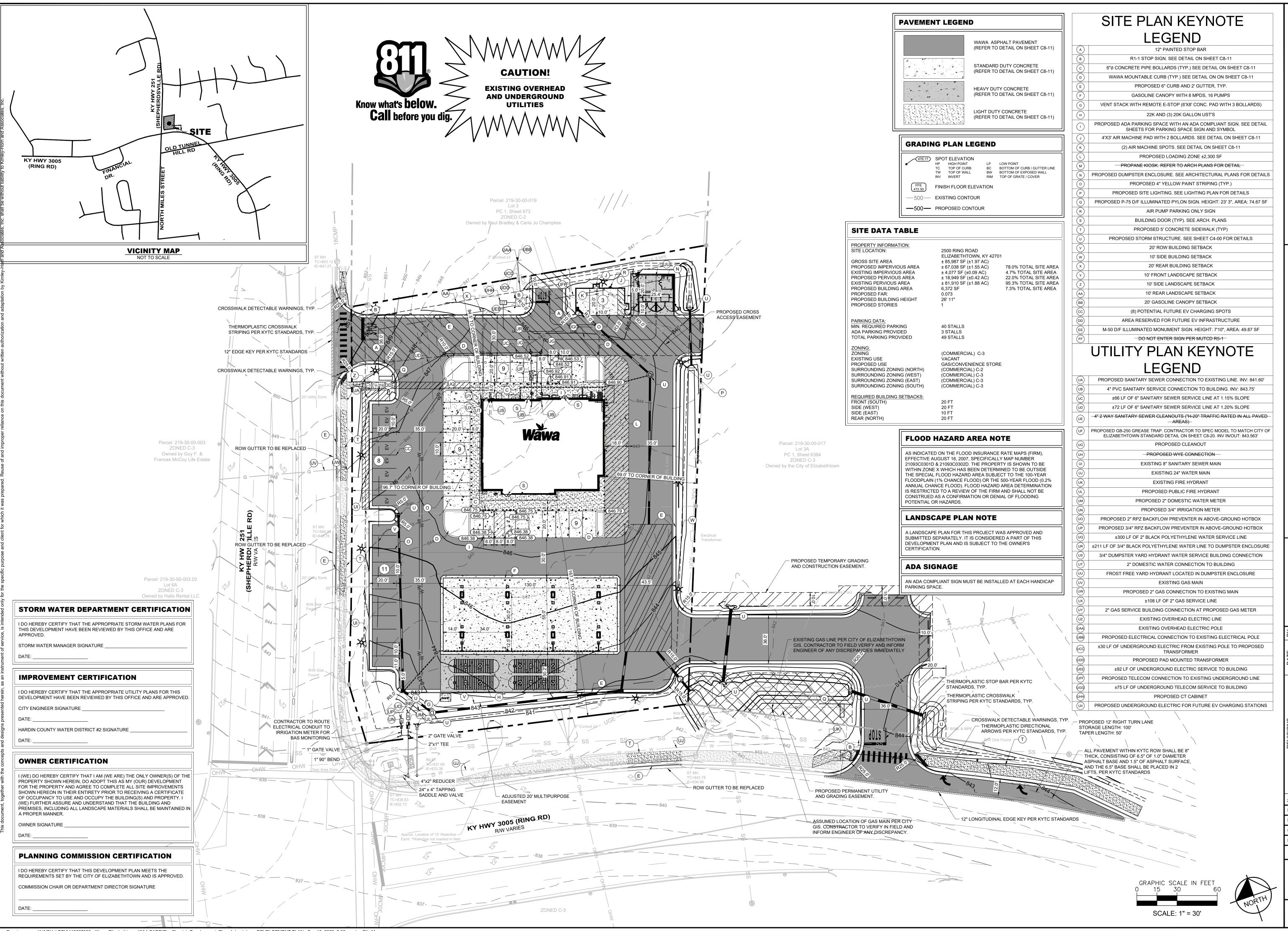
Figure 7: Updated DP

DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW

The development plan and landscape plan were filed as part of the requirements for Commercial Design Guideline review. The plans have been reviewed by all appropriate departments and jurisdictions and they comply with most requirements. Modifications are needed to accommodate the access easement at the rear of the lot.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the development and landscape plan conditioned upon approval by all reviewing departments and agencies and the provision of access to the adjoining lots.



LANDON V 40547

DATE					
REVISIONS					

DESIGNED BY: **DRAWN BY**

CHECKED BY:

KIMLEY-HORN PROJECT NO. 118267009 PLAT AND DEED REFERENCES:

P.C. SHEET 6384 D.B. 1451, PAGE 1552

SHEET NUMBER



Development Plan

Elizabethtown Outdoor Music Venue 600 Commerce Drive



Staff Report Addendum

Elizabethtown Planning Commission September 23, 2025

REQUEST

Development Plan for the Elizabethtown Outdoor Music Venue

APPLICANT

City of Elizabethtown

OWNER

City of Elizabethtown

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Address: 600 Commerce Drive

Size: 44.246 Acres

Current Zoning: R-4, Urban Residential, General

Current Use: Vacant

Proposed Use: Outdoor Music Venue



SUMMARY

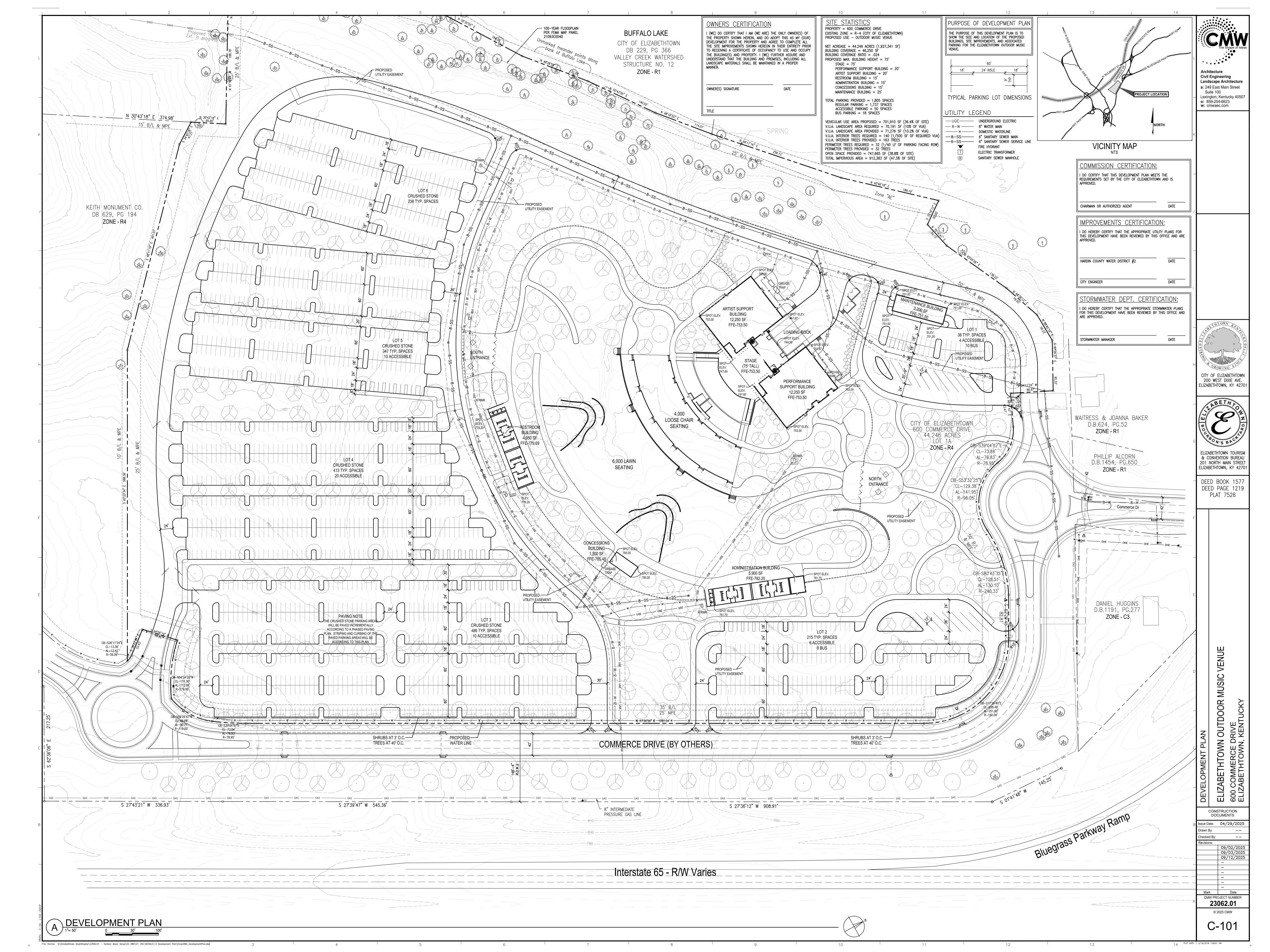
The subject property is located on the east side of Buffalo Lake just south of the northern terminus of Commerce Drive. Currently vacant, the City of Elizabethtown, in partnership with Elizabethtown Tourism and Convention Bureau, plans to construct a 10,000-seat Outdoor Music Venue on this site. Multiple access points via an extension of Commerce Drive are proposed. The Commerce Drive extension will connect each end of Commerce Drive to create an interconnect between Springfield Road and North Mulberry Street. There will be a total of 1,805 parking spaces provided (most of which will be crushed stone lots to begin with, then be paved over a multi-year paving schedule as the budget allows).

KRS 100 defines this type of facility as a "Public Facility" and provides a specific process to be followed by local jurisdictions. Prior to a permit being issued, the Planning Commission must advise the City how the project will comply with the Comprehensive Plan.

This proposal complies with the Comprehensive Plan and the intent of the zoning regulations as they pertain to setbacks, landscaping, site and building design and the objectives to support arts initiatives that elevate the quality of place and enrich the culture in Elizabethtown and to partner with the Elizabethtown Tourism and Convention Bureau to create more opportunities for tourism and entertainment in Elizabethtown through new or improved facilities and programming.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff finds that the development plan complies with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan, and the intent of the zoning regulations including parking and landscaping, and recommends the development plan be approved.





Uniform Application for Cellular Antenna Tower Amended Development Plan

Vertical Bridge Goodman 1110 Alex Drive



Staff Report

Elizabethtown Planning Commission September 23, 2025

2025-PC-19

REQUEST

Uniform Application for Cellular Antenna Tower Amended Development Plan for Goodman

APPLICANT

New Cingular Wireless, PCS, LLC dba AT&T Mobility Vertical Bridge BTS III LLC

OWNER

Vertical Bridge BTS III LLC Owens Family LLC

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Address: 1110 Alex Drive

Size: 3.2 Acres

Zone: C-3 Regional Commercial

Current Use: Retail HVAC Supply Sales



SUMMARY

The applicant is proposing the construction of a 195' monopole cellular antenna tower with a 4' lightning rod attached, reaching a total height of 199'. The proposed location is 1110 Alex Drive, a commercial lot that is the current site of Goodman Heating & Air Conditioning. An Amended Development Plan has been submitted for Goodman to reflect this proposed addition.

BACKGROUND

A Development Plan with Commercial Design Review and waivers for Commercial Design and Parking were reviewed and approved for Goodman by the Planning Commission on July 11, 2023. Approval was conditioned on the approval and recording of an amended record plat for the property, which was completed on September 27, 2023.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN ANALYSIS

The proposed tower location is on the south side of the property, connected to the existing parking lot. The addition of this pole and its 50x50 fenced gravel area requires two parking spaces and 25' of VUA landscaping to be relocated on site, which is shown on the submitted Amended Development Plan. This plan complies with all zoning ordinance regulations and meets the requirements of all appropriate departments and agencies.

CELLULAR ANTENNA TOWER REGULATIONS

Section 154.091 of the Elizabethtown Zoning Ordinance regulates the integration of cellular antenna towers within the city to ensure safe and efficient integration; to provide for such facilities in conformance with the goals and guidelines and recommendations of the comprehensive plan; and to allow such facilities with the intention of protecting the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Cellular antenna towers may be allowed in any residential zoning district if the property is owned by a public agency or utility or within any C-3, C-4, C-5, C-6 Zoning District or within any I-1 or I-2 Zoning District after a review in accordance with the procedures in Section 154.091 to determine agreement with the comprehensive plan and the regulations contained within city ordinances and regulations.

At least one public hearing on the application shall be held by the Commission at which interested parties and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard. Notice of the date, time and place of the hearing shall be published in the local newspaper not less than seven days and not more than 21 days before the hearing. Notice of the hearing shall also be posted on the site at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by KRS Chapter 100. Written notice shall be given to all property owners within 500 feet of the site as required by KRS Chapter 100. The applicant shall certify that proper notice was given as part of their uniform application.

Upon holding a hearing the Commission shall, within 60 days commencing from the date the application is received by the Commission, or within a date specified in a written agreement between the applicant and the Commission, make its final decision to approve or disapprove the uniform application. If the Commission fails to issue a final decision within 60 days and if there is no written agreement between the Commission and the applicant for a specific date for the Commission to issue a final decision it shall be presumed that the Commission has approved the applicant's uniform application.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW

The Goals and Objectives section of the Envision Elizabethtown 2040 Comprehensive Plan provides guidance on how Elizabethtown should be further developed while still preserving its character and benefiting its citizens. Goal 2 of the Plan focuses on Community Facilities: "Elizabethtown will responsibly expand and improve infrastructure to create a solid foundation for growth and development." Objective B for this goal instructs staff to "Coordinate expansion of new infrastructure with the Recommended Land Use Plan to support redevelopment and new development opportunities." This property is located in Sub Area 4, the Ring Road East Sub Area, and has a Recommended Land Use of Regional Commercial.

ORDINANCE REVIEW

The Elizabethtown Zoning Ordinance identifies thirteen regulatory components for the design of all new cellular antenna towers. These include the zone, setbacks, height, construction, illumination, site staffing, fencing, screening, driveways, signs, number of service providers, lease agreements, and other agency approvals.

Further, the Commission may require the applicant to make a reasonable attempt to co-locate additional transmitting or related equipment. The Commission may provide the location of existing cellular antenna towers on which the Commission deems the applicant can successfully co-locate its transmitting or related equipment. If the Commission requires the applicant to attempt co-location, the applicant shall provide the Commission with a statement indicating that the applicant has:

- (a) Successfully attempted to co-locate on towers designed to host multiple wireless service providers facilities or existing structures such as a telecommunications tower or another suitable structure capable of supporting the applicant's facilities, and that identifies the location of the tower or suitable structure on which the applicant will co-locate its transmission and related facilities; or
- (b) Unsuccessfully attempted to co-locate on towers designed to host multiple wireless services providers' facilities or existing structures such as a telecommunications tower or another suitable structure capable of supporting the applicant's facilities and that:
 - 1. Identifies the location of the towers or other structures on which the applicant attempted to co-locate; and
 - 2. Lists the reasons why the co-location was unsuccessful in each instance.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Staff found that the proposed cellular antenna tower meets all the applicable standards set forth by the Zoning Ordinance. Below is a more detailed analysis of the most significant provisions for this case.

154.091(F)(1) Monopole cellular antenna towers shall be permitted in any residential zoning district if the property is owned by a public agency or utility or within any C-3, C-4, C-5, C-6 Zoning District or within any I-1 or I-2 Zoning District. Lattice or guyed cellular antenna towers shall be permitted only in industrial zones.

This property is zoned C-3, Regional Commercial. The proposed tower is a single self-supporting monopole.

154.091(F)(2) All cellular antenna towers or alternate cellular antenna towers shall be setback at least the height of the tower, but not less than 50 feet. The Commission may require a greater setback when the proposed cellular antenna tower or alternate cellular antenna tower adjoins residential properties. This setback requirement does not include fencing and guy wires.

■ The total height of the proposed tower and attached lightning rod is 199 feet. The setbacks from each property line, starting with the Alex Drive r/w to the north and going clockwise, would be 277.9′, 199′, 69.8′, 221.2′, an 125.2′ with this proposed layout. A waiver of the 199′ setback requirement has been requested for two property lines.

154.091(F)(3) All cellular antenna towers or alternate cellular antenna towers shall not exceed a maximum height of 200 feet. The Commission may allow an antenna tower greater than 200 feet in height based upon review of the applicant's justification pursuant to information provided in the uniform application.

• The total height of the proposed tower is 199'.

154.091(F)(7) All cellular antenna towers or alternate cellular antenna towers shall be enclosed by fencing or fencing materials to provide for a minimum opacity of 50%. Such fences shall not be more than eight feet in height and may be located in the front, side or rear yard. Barbed wire may only be used at sites within industrial zones.

The proposed fence around the compound is to be chain-link with grey vinyl slats, providing an opacity of 75%.

154.091(F)(8) All cellular antenna towers or alternate cellular antenna towers shall be screened by evergreen trees with a minimum height of six feet upon planting; planted on a staggered pattern a maximum distance of 15 feet on center. The screening shall be located within a landscape buffer area that is located within a minimum of ten feet and a maximum of 20 feet of the fenced area and shall be placed to provide a screen to adjoining structures.

• The submitted Amended Development Plan of Goodman shows a total of 16 Leyland Cypress trees surrounding the fenced area, 6' tall upon planting.

154.091(F)(11) All new cellular antenna towers or alternate cellular antenna towers shall be designed to accommodate a minimum of three service providers.

The proposed tower is designed to accommodate three service providers.

154.091(G)(1) The Commission may require the applicant to make a reasonable attempt to co-locate additional transmitting or related equipment.

Exhibit L of the uniform application submitted by the applicant is their "Site Selection Report". This report, prepared by Vertical Bridge, gives a step-by-step outline of the process for selecting this site for a facility. AT&T radio frequency engineers identified a coverage/capacity gap in Elizabethtown and narrowed it down to a .65-mile radius of land where an antenna must be placed to close this gap. The site development team reviewed the area for any FCC-registered towers or any existing structure suitable for co-location and discovered none.

SETBACK WAIVER REQUEST

While variations from setback requirements pertaining to property zones are generally reviewed as Variances and brought before the Board of Zoning Adjustment for consideration, the City and the Planning Commission have previously established that the Commission has the authority to review and grant waivers of setback requirements pertaining to Cellular Antenna Towers in conjunction with their uniform application.

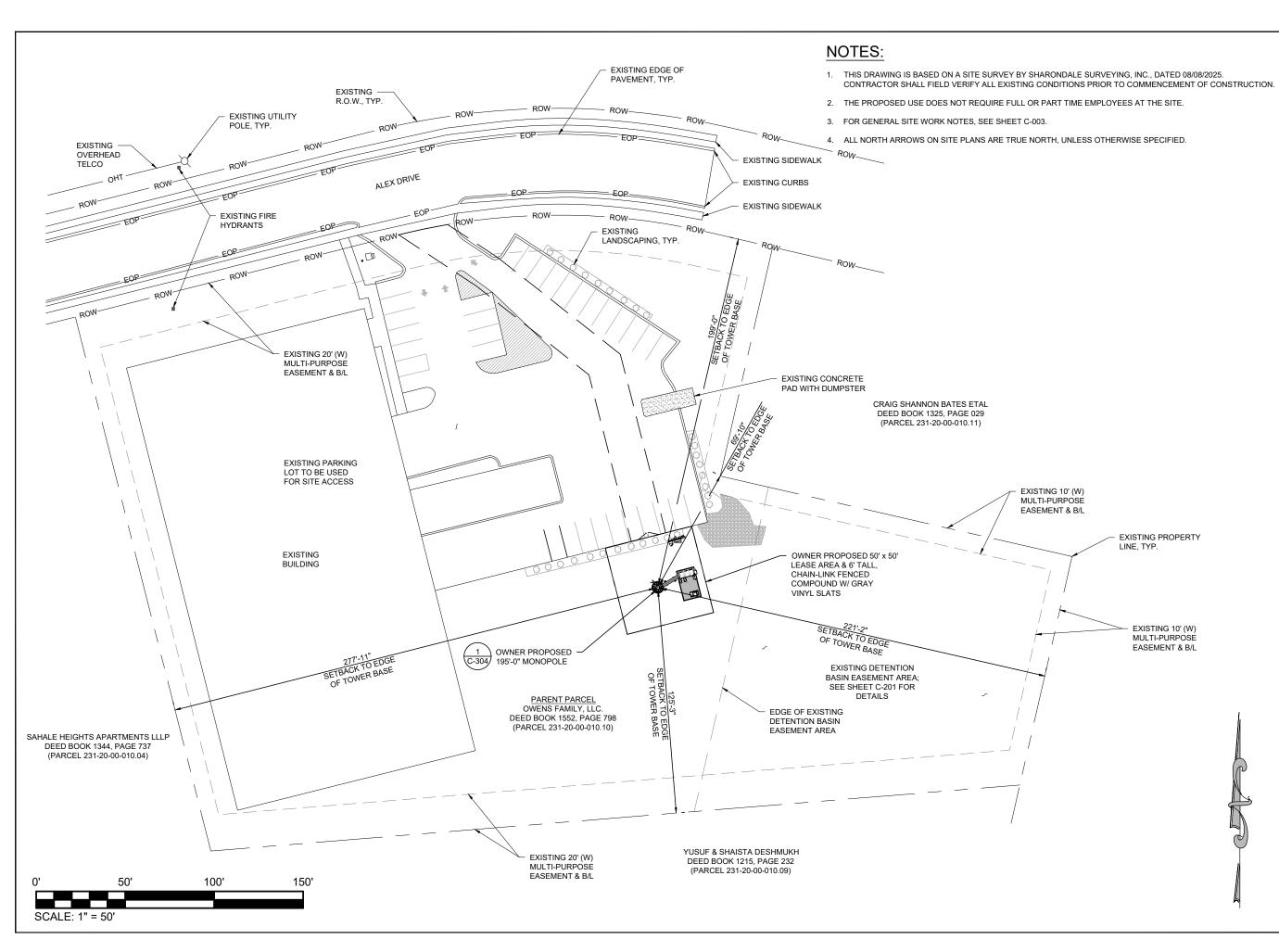
Per Section 154.091(F)(2), all Cellular Antenna Towers must be setback from property lines by at least the height of the tower, in this case a 199' setback. The proposed location for this tower is an L-shaped lot that abuts a small cemetery, an apartment complex, and two vacant parcels. The distance from the proposed tower base to the existing cemetery lot is 69.8'. The distance from the proposed tower base to the vacant lot to the south is 125.2'. The applicant requests a waiver of the setback requirement for these two property lines; a waiver of 129.2' for one setback and a waiver of 73.8' for the other.

Exhibit N of the uniform application for this project is a Fall Certification Letter, written and sealed by a Professional Engineer with B+T Group. This letter certifies that the proposed tower will be designed to withstand a wind speed of 105 miles per hour without ice and 30 miles per hour with 1.5" of ice. This letter further certifies that in the highly unlikely chance of operational failure, this monopole will be designed to fail through compression buckling – in which the upper portion of the pole buckles and folds over onto the stronger lower portion, resulting in a 0' fall radius from the base of the pole.

This certification, along with the context of the abutting lots use, leads staff to recommend approval of this waiver request.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends approval of this cellular antenna tower uniform application and requested waiver.





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DRAWN BY	CAD
CHECKED BY	CTD

	REVISIONS							
1	09/18/25	CAD	FENCE UPDATES					
0	08/29/25	CAD	ZONING ISSUE					
#	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION					



PEAR ORCHARD

FA NUMBER

16152927



SITE NAME

PEAR ORCHARD

SITE NUMBER

US-KY-5244

SITE ADDRESS

1120 ALEX DRIVE ELIZABETHTOWN, KY 42701

RAWLAND

SHEET TITLE

OVERALL SITE LAYOUT PLAN

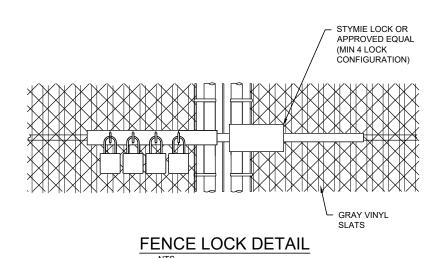
SHEET NUMBER REVISION

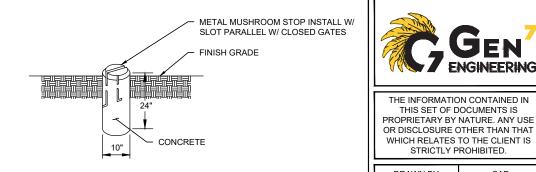
C-101

TYPICAL WOVEN WIRE FENCING NOTES:

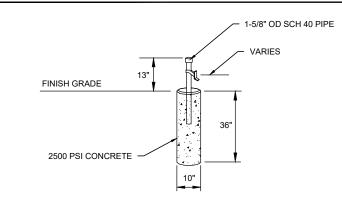
(INSTALL FENCING PER ASTM F-567, SWING GATES PER ASTM F-900)

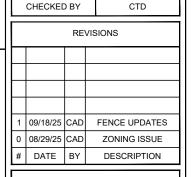
- GATE POST, CORNER, TERMINAL OR PULL POST SHALL BE 3"Ø SCHEDULE 40 FOR GATE WIDTHS UP THRU 7 FEET OR 14 FEET FOR DOUBLE SWING GATE PER
- 2. LINE POST: 2"Ø SCHEDULE 40 PIPE PER ASTM-F1083. INSTALL EVERY 8'-0" ALONG
- 3. GATE FRAME: 1-1/2"Ø SCHEDULE 40 PIPE, STELL, HOT-DIPPED ZINC COATED (GALVANIZED) WELDED STEEL PIPE PER ASTM-F1083.
- 4. TOP RAIL & BRACE RAIL: 1-5/8"Ø SCHEDULE 40 PIPE PER ASTM-F1083.
- CHAIN LINK FABRIC: 9 GA. MIN. CORE WIRE SIZE 2" MESH, CONFORMING TO ASTM-A392.
- TIE WIRE: MINIMUM 11 GA. GALVANIZED STEEL INSTALL A SINGLE WRAP TIE WIRE AT POSTS AND RAILS AT MAX. 24" INTERVALS. INSTALL HOG RINGS ON TENSION WIRE AT 24" INTERVALS.
- TENSION WIRE: 7 GA. GALVANIZED STEEL
- 8. GATE LATCH: 1-3/8" OD PLUNGER ROD W/ MUSHROOM TYPE CATCH AND LOCK (KEYED ALIKE FOR ALL SITES OR COMBINATION AS SPECIFIED BY OWNER)
- 9. HEIGHT= 6' VERTICAL DIMENSION. WORK WITH SPECIFICATION 2831.





MUSHROOM STOP





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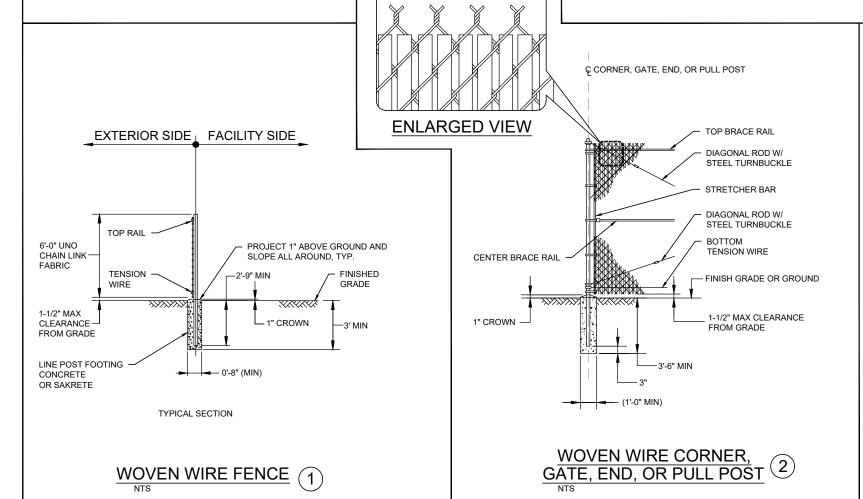
WHICH RELATES TO THE CLIENT IS

CAD

STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

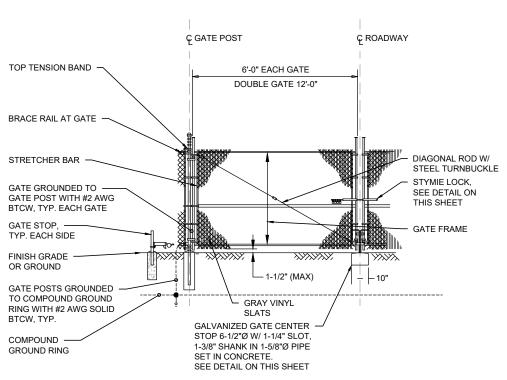
DRAWN BY

GATE STOP DETAIL



VINYL SLATS DEFAULT

COLOR IS TO BE GRAY



WOVEN WIRE DOUBLE GATE (3)



SHEET TITLE

SITE DETAILS

REVISION

SHEET NUMBER

C-307

